



The Dipstick



Dedicated To Preserving The Marque Since 1973

www.mg.org

Volume 49 Issue 5

May 2022

Spring Tech Session/Monthly Meeting

Hosted by Frank & Deb Linse (Tech Session); Paul & Cori Fuqua (Monthly Meeting)

April 10th

The annual Spring Tech Session was held in Norfolk on a beautiful Sunday morning. This is the traditional opportunity to get one's LBC ready for the driving season. For this session it would appear that everyone's cars were already in fine fettle for everything from the Spring Tour to Ice Cream Runs, Tides game nights, or any of the other driveouts that are planned for 2022.



Tim Hund's TVR Griffith

One particular task was accomplished on Nick Smith's MGB -- the installation of gas-actuated bonnet struts. These little beauties come in an easily installed kit with all associated hardware. On this particular car, it was necessary to move the fusebox slightly downward from its factory position on the starboard side of the engine compartment. Once this was accomplished, the kit went in without a hitch. The benefit of these struts is that the bonnet now opens to a nearly vertical position. This makes engine compartment access even easier -- a real game changer for every mechanic.



Several “new” cars made an appearance at the Linse’s, including Tim Hund’s TVR Griffith. This fiberglass beauty sports a small block V8 under it’s forward tilting bonnet. According to Wayne Carini’s show, the reported 0-60 time on these was just over 4 seconds! Also spotted were several MGB-GTs , a couple of MGA’s, and a slew of road ready MGBs. Eric Fee also drove his 1930 Model A all over the neighborhood, and later parked it near Paul Fuqua’s 1931 Chevrolet coupe’. The Chevy is a local Norfolk car, originally purchased from Colonial Chevrolet when new.



Beautiful MGA Coupe’



Hank Giffin’s latest acquisition
Is on the left

After a morning filled with active chatter and lots of cool cars, the group repaired down the block to the Fuqua abode for the April TMGC meeting.....more on that in Kelly’s minutes, elsewhere in this issue.



Eric’s 1930 Model A Ford Coupe’, Paul’s Z-28 and
1931 Chevrolet Coupe’ welcome Nick’s MGB to
the monthly TMGC meeting. (There are at least
two rumble seats in this view!)

Williamsburg British and European Car Show

Held on April 23rd in the onetime Colonial Capitol

The annual WBCC British & European Car Show was held at (TBD) near downtown Williamsburg on April 23rd under beautiful sunny skies. This year's show was focused on the Royal motor pool, in honor of the Queen's 70th Jubilee Year. Two classes of Royal vehicles were featured as separate judging classes: **Royal Work** and **Royal Toys**.

TMGC had a small contingent in attendance, including Eric Fee with his 1963 Rolls Royce Silver Shadow III. Eric served as chauffeur for the closest thing we have to MG royalty – Frank Linse. Also attending were Mike & Denise Haag (BMW Z3 coupe', NOT coop!), Mark Davidoski (1974 ½ MGB-GT), and Mike & Jennifer Ash (nearly Classic Toyota SUV.) Also attending the show was Doug Wilson with his pristine 1976 MGB roadster.

The Ladd's made a valiant effort to attend in their recently-acquired MGC-GT, but the car show gods were not smiling on them. The car began running very rough not far from home, so they had it towed back to Abacus for further investigation by Bob West. Word is that Bob is reworking the valves.



Eric's RHD Silver Shadow III

That's one tough Englishman!



The WBCC really knows how to put on a car show! They even had a local Bagpiping squad playing all of the Bagpipe classics, plus a great sound system and DJ dishing out plenty of British tunes that were new when our cars were also new! A raffle was held throughout the day for registered participants. The culminating drawing was for a 50/50 that totaled over \$700.00. The lucky winner graciously donated all proceeds back to the Williamsburg ARC, which was the sponsored service organization. ARC provides services for disabled adults in the Williamsburg area and does yeoman work in meeting the local need.

The show was adjacent to Revolution Golf & Grille which provided restrooms for show goers, as well as superb fare (accompanied by appropriate adult beverages!) The air conditioning was also much appreciated.

After a gorgeous day enjoying a large complement of beautiful cars, the TMGC crew headed back to the southside of the 757. As usual, the HRBT was clobbered with a 4+ mile backup. However, temperatures weren't too bad and the first breath of maritime air near the tunnel opening was indeed refreshing. A side note on temperatures – my B-GT now sports a modern aluminum radiator. The engine temperature never reached the “N” on my gauge, and stayed at the same spot during high speed I-64 running as well as in the painful stop and go of the infamous HRBT. (My old stock radiator used to creep up to about 2/3 deflection in similar summer stop and go traffic.)

Hats off to WBCC for a truly enjoyable show. You really need to plan on going next year!



Denise and Mike with their Germanic GT



Marque Time



After I turned in last month's column Denise and I went on vacation. I took several car magazines (what else?) to read at the airport and during down time on the cruise. One of them was the February 2022 issue of Enjoying MG magazine from the MGOC. Thanks to Mike Ash for sharing his MG magazines! In that issue was an article on a couple who drove their MGB on the NC500, which I mentioned in last month's column. They drove their 1971 MGB from London up to Scotland, then on to the NC500. They also took many side trips along the way. After 8 days on the road and 1390 miles, the fuel pump gave out. Not being able to repair or replace the faulty fuel pump, the RAC trucked their MGB back to London and they drove home in a rented Toyota Yaris. If only they had carried one of those small, aftermarket solid-state fuel pumps, some extra fuel hose and a couple extra clamps, they could have easily made a roadside repair and continued on with their journey. How do I know this? As the saying goes, "been there, done that".

Along with some spare parts and 100 miles free towing, I also carry some extra insurance in the way of a couple of "lucky charms". The first is a 4-leaf clover given out by Beckey Watson on the Shamrock Rallye drive many years ago. The other is a car mezuzah I bought in Jerusalem on a Holy Land Tour back in 2017. I keep these in the glove compartment just for some extra luck on the drive. I know that the mezuzah should be mounted on the outside near a door, but I am not putting any more holes in my MGB. I am keeping my "lucky charms" with my MGB in hopes they will help her from succumbing to the curse of Lucas or some other bad juju. I know some of you drive your MGs with confidence they will not falter or break down. Me, I drive with some confidence but any bit of additional luck certainly can't hurt.

Here's hoping that driving your MG this year doesn't require using any spare parts or that extra bit of good luck.

Safety fast,

Mike



TMGCCC Activities

April 20, 2022

May should be a great month! Some of the nicest temperatures of the year for top-down driving or any kind of cruising, and we have several opportunities to do that. May starts out with the annual Spring Drive to parts West, coordinated by Alan and Beckey Watson. Then our May meeting will be at the home of the Easleys, 116 Cheadle Loop Rd. in Seaford, on Saturday May 7 from 11 AM to 4 PM. We hope this will make for easier HRBT travel with less traffic. Rob McPherson and I are planning a “No Bridge Tunnel Tour” to Elizabeth City on Saturday, May 14 for those who are interested. Tentative plans are to leave from the parking lot at 1255 Fordham Dr. in VB about 09:00 AM for a tour of the Museum of the Albermarle, lunch, beverages, etc.; more details to follow. Another weekend of fun will be the next weekend, when the AACA Grand National will take place at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach on May 21. No shortage of things to do in May, but of course you can (and should) still drive your awesome MG any nice day you want to!

We return to a favorite venue for our June 7 monthly meeting at the Ocean View Pier. Plan to arrive by 6 PM and order as soon as you feel like it, to avoid getting the kitchen all backed up at once. For North American MG Register folks, the NAMGAR gathering is in Colorado Springs on June 10, and the NAMGBR is in Ontario June 19-23. Another annual affair will be our trip to “Turn Back the Clock” night for the baseball extravaganza at Tides Stadium on July 12. At the May and June meetings we will collect \$15 per person for tickets and Robert Perrone will purchase tickets and hand them out at the July meeting. If you can’t make the July meeting, we will work out a method of getting your tickets to you. If 20 or more members attend, we should qualify to get a group rate; if so you may get \$1 back along with your ticket. Have your cash for tickets ready at the May and June meetings! EXACT CASH PLEASE.

On a separate but related subject, here’s a request for each of us to consider that we are “ambassadors” for our car club (as well as other car clubs who may follow us), and for us to use courtesy, understanding and consideration for our venues as we travel. I was told by a long-time member that there was a period in which our Club was not welcome at Williamsburg venues due to the attitude and behavior of some former members. Following our recent visit to the Island House Restaurant in Wachapreague, the restaurant received two complaints about the slow service and food, one on-line and the other, a phone call from someone who identified themselves as “Davidson”, and said they spoke for our Club. Some of you may also remember we had a similar “slow service” at the restaurant in Urbanna during our Spring Drive last year. It’s been apparent at many places that venues are short-staffed due to impacts from Covid, which is part of the cause. We also need to recognize that when 20 people are seated together, the restaurant’s goal is for all the meals to come out hot at the same time so everyone can eat (and finish) together. So, whether you order a simple appetizer as your main course or a full three-plus-course dinner, your meal will not be served until that most complicated meal is ready to be served. So please be patient, enjoy your beverage and take time to interact with your companions. We all recognize people’s right to express their opinion, but if you feel a need to “speak for the Club,” then take it up with the Officers for a formal action.

We want to be welcome next time!

Bruce Easley



Late notice received at the WBCC Show. An excellent opportunity for next year!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 7 – Monthly Meeting hosted by Bruce & Jayne Easley in Seaford. Start time: 11:00 a.m.

May 19 – 21 – AACA Grand National at Founders’ Inn, Virginia Beach

June 7 -- Monthly Meeting at Ocean View Pier -- 6:00 p.m.

July 5 – Monthly Meeting hosted by (TBD)

August 6 – 11:00 a.m. -- Monthly Meeting hosted by Jennifer & Mike Ash in historic Eastville

September 7 – Monthly Meeting hosted by Andy Wallach & Cynthia Faschini in Norfolk

October 4 – Monthly Meeting hosted by Renee & Bill Olcheski in Virginia Beach

November 2 – Monthly Meeting hosted by Kathy & Mark Davidoski in Virginia Beach (**Chili Cookoff!**)

December (TBD) – **TMGC Annual Holiday Party (details to come!)**

TMGC Officers and Committees

President	Robert Perrone	574-3233
Vice President	Mike Haag	Mikehmg@cox.net
Secretary	Kelly MacPherson	285-7502
Treasurer	Jim Villers	822-9182
Editors	Mark and Kathy Davidoski	499-4647
Membership	Mike Ash	678-0963
Webmaster	Mike Haag	Mikehmg@cox.net
Historian	Susan Bond	403-1169
Technical	Terry Bond	403-4614
Activities	Bruce Easley	570-2042
Clubs	Mike Ash	678-0963
Regalia	Rose Ladd	737-2468

TMGC Meeting Minutes for April

So, Rob and I arrived at the Saturday TMGC Meeting and Spring Tech Session at Frank and Deb Linse's house. There we met one of the newest members of the club, Tim, and his 1959 MG. Beautiful car. He shared that he bought it from a guy in Rhode Island. They are still phone friends! (How cool is that!?) Tim shared that there is a big car show up there in June that he and the wife are going to go to and visit with the guy and his wife. Loved that story...

I walked up and down the street admiring all the different MGs. I must say, the club has a very impressive car collection. Did everyone see the Griffith! Never saw one before and had to walk around it a few times to take it all in. I don't know who owns it but GOOD GOD that is a gorgeous car. Rob and I were admiring it when a big van with an orange emergency light on top stopped which a couple of scruffy guys drove, stopped next to it, and one of them says to me, "That's a big engine. How do you drive that?" For a moment, I was the owner! That was my Griffith. I then went into a zone for a few seconds. But then I came back to reality and let him know we didn't own it but were also enjoying the view.

Outside of the house, laid out on the grassy strip near the road, Donald had placed a large spread of free parts along with a bunch of items for sale. There were a lot of bummed out fellas wondering where all the items were when they needed them. Can't outdo our Rose though with her regalia. She and I were talking and Don called out to her for a 10 dollar bill. Both Rose and I thought he said pen! LOL.

Now on to the official minutes.....



TMGC Meeting April 10, 2022
Home of Paul & Cori Fuqua
(Porsche Carrera, '31 Chevy Coupe and '69 Z28)
Minutes recorded by Kelly MacPherson

Walking up to the house, there were three cool looking oldies but goodies: an orange Z28 Camaro (WOW), a Ford Model A and a 1931 Chevy coupe. In the driveway was a chrome bumper MGB (that could have been mine, if Rob had gotten to it first!) In the backyard was a fire pit with folks sitting around and a Porsche (Michael missed out). I approached Paul and asked if I could use the restroom. I had two choices - the garage bathroom or the house bathroom. Imagine: a garage with a bathroom! My dad would have loved that. I could hear him saying, "That's alright, man!"

There was a nice spread in the garage with different options for drinks. I saw a clear container with reddish colored liquid in it and some lime and lemons. I saw that PJ had a large SOLO type cup in his hand and asked him what it was. He told me it was cranberry juice with lemonade, which turned out to be...A LIE! It did not taste like cranberry juice with lemonade. So to check, I asked Rob to taste it. "That's Sangria", he told me. Good thing I only poured a little in my cup or I would not have been fit to take meeting minutes.

Because it was slightly chilly out, the meeting was held in the garage. This time, I brought my iPad to take notes, but the case is kinda flimsy so Rob handed me an empty pizza box. I sat down in a very comfortable chair, propped my feet up in order to set the box on my lap, and put the iPad on that. Not the greatest, but



Call to order: 12:50 - no gavel this month, so Mike banged on something else that I could not see. He shared that the Spring Tech Session was a hit and it was good to have everyone together after such a long time.

President Mike asked for approval of last month's meeting minutes and they were approved (thank you all!)

Our VP, Paul, was up next (it is really hard to keep up with what he's saying, so I got what I could. However, you will be able to see it in the next Dipstick addition)

The Easley's will be hosting the next TMGC meeting on May 7th.

Other adventures awaiting the crew include:

June - Ocean View Pier.

July - Still up in the air.

August - Mike and Jennifer Ashe's house on the Eastern Shore (it is so nice out there).

September and October were a blur for me, ya'll.

November - the Davidoski's home for the chili cook off.

December - Holiday party - Where oh where should we go. Jennifer and Bruce felt the country club was impersonal. Someone's house maybe?

Activities with Bruce up next (he's another person that talks fast):

April - Monthly meeting and Tech Session (yep we're here :0)

April 23rd is the Williamsburg Car club show.

End of April - Spring Tour over three days (that's my birthaversary!)

May - everyone head to Bruce's on Saturday at 11 am. The hope is that the traffic will not be too bad. Everyone should stay until about 4pm because he has some things planned (that has piqued my interest. How about you?)

May 14 - There will be no bridge tunnel tour. Instead the group will head south to Elizabeth

City to enjoy a beautiful (FREE) museum (it is pretty cool). The Buffalo distillery should be open and there are a number of good places to eat and brew pubs to visit.

May 23rd - Grand National at The Founders Inn in Virginia Beach

June at 6pm Ocean View Pier meeting. Get there early and give your order as early as you can because that place gets crazy busy.

June Colorado Springs and Ontario car shows (Bruce is going - he is always going to cool places and he does not bring us. What's up with that?)

July 12th is turn back the clock night which is a Tuesday. Seating is 15 dollars per person if you want to go. Bring money over the next few meetings because Robert will be our Ticket Master and collect the money. He did indicate that there would be a three dollar handling fee. Tickets will be handed out at the July meeting.



When traveling as a group, we need to be ambassadors for the MG club and other clubs that travel through. Back in the day, the club was banned from Williamsburg (ok, ya'll. How does a group like this get banned from anywhere? Who's going to spill the tea?). Beer underwater naked (SAY WHAT?! Now that story needs to be told. I remember firecrackers in my room, but....

New Members: Tim Wright (the gentleman with the red MG T that bought it off the guy in Rhode Island and is now fast friends with. I totally think that is the coolest thing.

Treasurer's Report - No Jim this month! Thanks to the Prez for giving me the notes. Balance \$1,762.68 - not bad. Jim sent some extra hard copies of the roster.

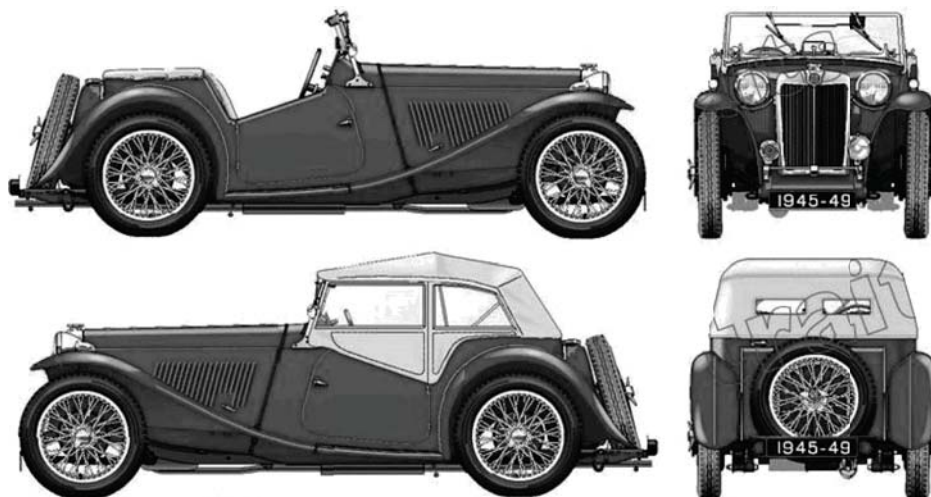
Dipstick - Praise in public and correct in private (not sure what that was in reference to). For the last Dipstick there was so much great material contributed that it will to be carried over for the next few months. The Dipstick is an award winner this year for best newsletter.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye! The Dipstick has made national news and has been rated as the best newsletter of the year by the New England MGT register! It won the Gardiner Mulvaney Award Winner for 2021. It BEST conveys the spirit of the register. Congratulations to our Editors, Contributors and Readers!

Okay, squirreled for a minute. I noticed next to me were the stairs with holes in the post. I noticed something poking out of them and pulled one out (told you all I'm curious) and found they were spark plugs. Very inventive. I motioned to Rob to show him and he looked at me like I was from another planet; like, "how do you not know that is a thing?"

There was a check from Mary and Jim who were disappointed that they didn't get listed in the register. Mike brought more magazines for anyone and said Paul could put them in the trash if no one took them. My Rob grabbed one to add to our magazine collection.

Technical: Terry thanked Mark and Mike for helping him out with publishing his last tech story. Something about how a computer does crazy things and the version that went out on the web was perfect. If anyone has any technical needs or help with your cars, let him know the question because that gets him diving into and researching the problems so he can have material for the next technical article.



Historian: Sue left the history out in her car. "The car's here."

No new or old business and no Marque Time. Andrew shared there are starters out there that are \$290 or \$250 - there are ones out there for \$150. Let him know and he can hook you up. Donald shared he bought a \$150 starter, but they actually build them once they are ordered. Hard time getting the spiders(?) for them. Andy, "Don't know what was wrong with you. I got mine right away!"

Rose ordered 10 MG shirts. If anyone else is interested in one, give her the money and she will order them today and get them in process tomorrow. You can go to the place and get it yourself if you want. Don't know where it is though. Have to ask Rose.

Regalia Rose! (I swear ya'll. It's like Christmas or birthday or something like that when Rose is up)
Al donated Bumper Stickers and Robert won one. "I want the 50/50!"

Mike and Jennifer donated a bag and Paul won got it. Someone called it a man purse.

A tester was won by Mike and Jennifer - Andy read the number backwards. (Don't know who donated it, but it was a hit!)

Picture of an MGT was donated by Craig. It's been in his garage forever: Robert won that, but tried to auction it off before it was even in his hands. Then offered it to Andy who said, "If it had the original top maybe!"

50/50 was 33 dollars. Nope, Robert didn't win it. The MG Gods figured he had won enough for today. Instead, David was the big winner. Go David!

Al won the bumper sticker and gave it to somebody else saying, "I donated it!" Then Bob and Paul won bumper stickers.

Don't forget to buy a baseball cap and magnet with the TMGC and MG logos. If anyone wants to donate items, bring them in and give them to Rose.

1:23: Motion to adjourn was quickly seconded.

Another great meeting.

Safe travels as you embark on new adventures. Until next time.



Getaway Weekend- March 5 - 7, 2022

Well the weekend started bright and early on Saturday morning as we arose and got away to the kitchen to made preparations for the Tidewater Meeting. The sun was out but it was a bit on the cool side. Everything was ready by the time the members started to arrive. Just as quickly as it started it was time for everyone to head back to their homes but the weather was turning a bit warmer and we had extended goodbyes in the front yard as the sun was shining down on us.

That evening our daughter brought over her dog, Clutch, and she was able to get away for a few hours leaving her furry pet with us. We enjoyed a quiet evening watching movies and her dog sleep on the sofa in the living room. Before you know it, she's returned to claim him and they left and we got away for a good night's sleep, although it was a bit later in the evening.

The sun was shining brightly as we awoke Sunday morning. With a quip about going for a drive up to the mountains we were soon checking our calendars, (nothing we couldn't postpone), packing and making hotel reservations for our overnight getaway.

We managed to hit the road just after noon on Sunday after feasting on leftovers from the previous day's festivities. We started out the usual route, I-64 to I-295, but instead of heading back on to I-64 we veered off and got on to Highway 250 West outside of Richmond. We traveled through town for about 20 minutes before escaping to the lovely ups and downs of the road as we headed west. We missed the turn in Charlottesville for 250 so back onto I-64 briefly until we found the next exit off for 250 at Crozet. We continued over the mountains traveling through Waynesboro. This time we didn't miss any turns and quickly found our hotel in Staunton just off of I-81. Actually, just across the road from our first stop on the fall tour. By the way, the restaurant at the bottom of the hill is only open until 3 p.m. on Sundays.





Monday morning came and we once again packed everything into the MG so we could finish up our getaway to Skyline Drive. We left just before 9 a.m. and the temperatures were already very pleasant. We wanted to get to Skyline Drive quickly so we jumped onto I-81 and I-64 and then took the exit to Skyline. We entered the park and were able to enjoy the spectacular views of the valleys below. The trees are still bare so there were no obstructions to seeing the valleys. There

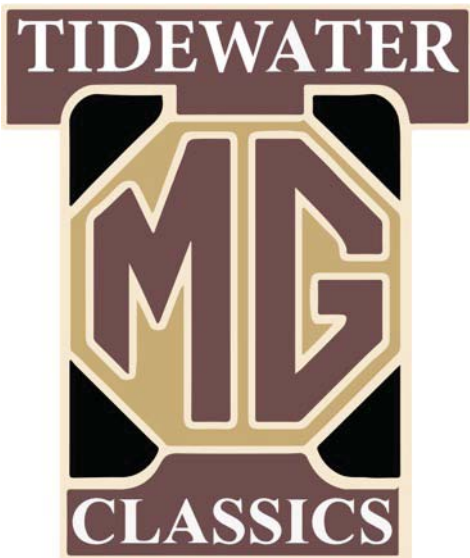
were several dozen cars parked at the different parking areas for hiking but very few cars on the road. We did encounter several deer at different locations throughout the park. One deer just popped his head up over the barrier wall to take a look at us but as we drove by he just went back to munching some sumptuous grass. The next deer we encountered had a totally different take on our MG and took off running. We also had a brief encounter with one GEICO squirrel. Neither the squirrel or the MG were damaged during the encounter but I'm sure his little heart was pounding for a few minutes after scurrying off into the wood line. The trip across took about 3 1/2 hours. There was not much open, but we did luck out and the restrooms were open at the Big Meadow. No food or gas. Upon exiting the park near I-66 we had lunch and then hopped on I-66 until we came to Route 17. We returned back home via Route 17. They are continuing to make changes and if you haven't been up that way recently there are several changes where Route 17 and I-95 meet. The trip through the town is a bit slow due to the stoplights but merging onto I-95 is now much easier and the through traffic has its own lanes. Luckily, we were not on I-95 too long before Route 17 gets back off in Fredericksburg. Pretty soon we were back to a two lane road. We did discover that there are now several new developments being built just outside of Fredericksburg.

We made it back to Hampton in the late afternoon and filled up the gas tank one last time. And then just a quick three miles to home, ...erp, erp, ugh, ugh, so sorry not quite the end just yet because as our luck would have it, or as any MG owner's luck would have it, the car died. Yep, right there at the gas station. One MG not getting any gas. As the car was halfway out into the road we (meaning PJ) had to push it back into the gas station lot while I steered. Pop the hood, check the engine, and yes, you guessed it, it's the fuel pump. Of course, this fuel pump had survived since the parking lot at Yellowstone NP. So not a bad life. Took a little while to pull out the old one and put in the new one, which by the way is now just a temporary fix, as someone has ordered another fuel pump because he really didn't like the new one he just installed. And then we finally got away from the gas station and back home before the street lights came on.

What a wonderful weekend Get Away!

by Faith & PJ Peterson

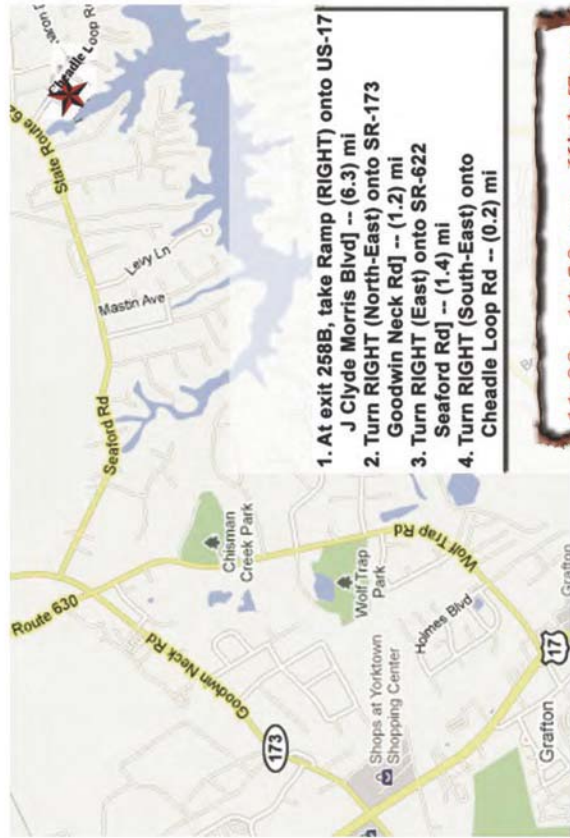
Spring Tour Preview (complete coverage in the June edition of the Dipstick!)





The meeting will be in the house at the end of the long driveway.

Monthly Meeting
Saturday, May 7th
Bruce & Jayne Easley
116 Cheadle Loop Rd.
Seaford, VA
757-897-8263



1. At exit 258B, take Ramp (RIGHT) onto US-17 J Clyde Morris Blvd] -- (6.3) mi
2. Turn RIGHT (North-East) onto SR-173 Goodwin Neck Rd] -- (1.2) mi
3. Turn RIGHT (East) onto SR-622 Seaford Rd] -- (1.4) mi
4. Turn RIGHT (South-East) onto Cheadle Loop Rd -- (0.2) mi

11:00 - 11:30 am - Kick Tyres
11:30 Meeting



The Dipstick

Tidewater MG Classics

C/O Kathy & Mark Davidoski

4705 Little John Road

Virginia Beach, VA 23455

davidoskicrew@cox.net

Affiliated with



North American MGB Register



NAMGAR
North American MGA Register

FIRST CLASS